

ABRAM'S DELIGHT (HOLLINGSWORTH HOUSE)  
Rouss Spring Ave.  
Winchester  
Virginia

HABS No. VA-692

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35-WIN  
14-

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Virginia	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY Winchester (ind. city)
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Abram's Delight (name of original tract of land on which house was built)		HABS NO. VA-692
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Hollingsworth House		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Rouse Spring Avenue		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1754 (inscribed plaque in east gable wall)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) One of the oldest houses in the area, and probably the oldest house now standing in Winchester, <del>A</del> Abram's Delight was built by Isaac Hollingsworth on a tract of land obtained by his father, Abraham, in 1732. The house is an excellent example of vernacular stone construction.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Vernacular. Typical of the sort of house built by the early Quaker and Scotch-Irish settlers in the Valley of Virginia.		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Limestone laid in random rubble. Stone bearing walls. Roof and floor construction is wood frame, except for brick floor in basement, added in 1950s.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) See HABS measured drawings.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Segmental arched lintels over first floor windows and door in original portion. Box cornice.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Evidence in plaster and flooring indicates that the west room in the original portion may have been divided into two smaller rooms. Mantels and trim on first floor have been altered. Eastern rooms on second floor have original trim. Other spaces on second floor have been remodeled for curator's apartment.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Ext.: two story wing on west side added prior to 1801. A brick wing and dormers were later additions, now removed. Brick entrance stoops are not original. Door on east side formerly a window, door on north facade formerly larger. Present asphalt roof replaces wood shakes. Int.: (See interior features of note, above).		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Purchased by City of Winchester in 1943, and under custodianship of Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society. Open as historic house museum.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Simon Taylor was stone mason, according to Quarles (see below). Formal garden and terrace date from 1958. Stone mill across road built by Hollingsworth family in early 1800s. Log house and shed in yard are recent additions to museum complex.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Register Nomination Form; Quarles, Garland R., The Story of One Hundred Old Homes in Winchester, Virginia, 1967; Frederick County Deed Books, nos. 2 and 65, Will Books, nos. 1 and 50, Will Book Superior Court, no. 26.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Information derived from data obtained by Wesley Ivan Shank (Historian) and C. Frederick Tolson (Supervisor), HABS Winchester project, July, 1972. Compiled by Al Chambers, HABS.		DATE 1972, 1984